Education Leadership Breaks into Top 25 Nationally

Graduateprograms.com is the graduate school guide created for students by students. The best graduate programs in the country are ranked solely on ratings and reviews from current or recent graduate students. Students posted their opinions on graduateprograms.com.

STLL is pleased to announce that in Fall 2014, Education Leadership rankings according to graduateprograms.com show that the STLL Educational Leadership program has broken into the top 25. Program rankings, compiled using data gathered between September 1, 2012 and September 30, 2014, encompass reviews posted by more than 70,000 students participating in over 1,600 graduate programs nationwide. Ratings are based on a 10-star system (1 being the worst and 10 being the best.) Ratings show the STLL Educational Leadership program ranked 16th in the nation.

Top 25 Ed Leadership Programs:

1. Union University
2. Auburn University Main Campus
3. California State University Fullerton
4. University of San Francisco
5. Harvard University
6. George Mason University
7. University of San Diego
8. University of California Davis
9. Teachers College at Columbia U.
10. Northern Illinois University
11. Vanderbilt University
12. Sam Houston State University
13. Pepperdine University
14. California State Univ. Northridge
15. University of California-Berkeley
16. University of Central Florida
17. Fordham University
18. Mills College
19. California State Univ. Los Angeles
20. University of Texas at San Antonio
21. University of Southern California
22. George Washington University
23. Clark Atlanta University
24. University of Virginia
25. Notre Dame of Maryland Univ.

IN THIS ISSUE....

Education Leadership Breaks into Top 25 Nationally.................................................................1
Gallery Talk by Tom Brewer...........................................................................................................2
Dr. Russell Publishes Research Article..........................................................................................2
The Showcase is Coming! The Showcase is Coming!.................................................................2
Read for the Record Encourages Pre-K Students’ Love of Reading...........................................3
Free Implementing the Florida Standards Webinar Nov. 6 ..........................................................4
Great Workshops for Next Week by HAPPY Hour.................................................................5
Calendar........................................................................................................................................6
Professor Tom Brewer delivered a gallery talk on Monday, October 27, at 3:30 p.m. in the UCF Art Gallery at the 2014 Annual UCF Faculty Art Exhibit. Dr. Brewer shared his unique pathway into the teaching profession and his progression into teacher education.

As a nationally recognized artist, educator, and award-winning researcher, Dr. Brewer had many anecdotes to share while hoping that art students in the audience might be convinced that they, too, could have a rewarding career in teaching and teacher education.

Dr. Russell Publishes Research Article

Dr. S. Waters (University of Tennessee) and Dr. Will Russell recently published an article entitled “Preservice Secondary Teachers’ Sense of Efficacy in Teaching Character Education” in The Journal of Education (J.O.E.). J.O.E. is the oldest continuously published education journal in the United States.

The Showcase is Coming! The Showcase is Coming!

From 8:30—4:30pm on Saturday, January 31, 2015, we will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of the HAPPY Hour Student Showcase! An in-house conference in the Education Complex, Teach Academy, and the Morgridge International Reading Center, the Showcase boasts interactive student presentations, keynote UCF Education Graduate Christine Palmer, prizes, networking opportunities with principals, and other exciting professional development opportunities. Online registration, which will begin on Monday, November 3, 2014 on the HAPPY Hour website at http://education.ucf.edu/happy hour, will be $15; on-site (day of the Showcase), registration will be $20. Join us for the best in teacher candidate professional development!
Read for the Record Encourages Pre-K Students’ Love of Reading

Pre-kindergarten students throughout the country and around the world participated in the 8th annual Read for the Record event Tuesday morning, including hundreds of students right here in central Florida.

Read for the Record, one of the campaigns operated by JumpStart, aims to celebrate and encourage literacy from an early age, and to prepare students for success as they move into kindergarten and beyond. Last year the program managed to break a world record as nearly 2.5 million adults and children worldwide participated in reading activities.

Dr. Lee-Anne Spalding, lecturer in the School of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership, coordinated this year’s event at UCF, with dozens of students from three area schools participating. More than 70 CEDHP students volunteered for the event, guiding readings and activities for all of the kids. The young students participated in reading this year’s book, “Bunny Cakes” by author Rosemary Wells, then worked their way through eight baking activity stations.

“The Read for the Record event is a labor of love,” said Dr. Lee-Anne T. Spalding. “Seeing the smiles on the children’s faces makes all the planning and preparation so worthwhile. I had a great deal of support from PNC Bank, Publix, various members of the college, and our student volunteers! Not only did the children get to enjoy a morning of educational activities, but the CEDHP students were able to work with young children who, this time next year, will be in kindergarten at our local schools. At the end of the day, we all feel so good about the experience we have provided. We want to be a small part of the process of fostering a love of learning early on and through this event we accomplish just that!”

(continued on page 4)
Parents and teachers were present for the event as well, watching as the young students enjoyed activities including a slotted spoon relay, virtual cupcake creation, and more.

Jenn Froehlich, mother of one of the preschoolers taking part in Read for the Record, was impressed with the experience. “This is my first year being a part of this, and it’s been terrific. It’s a great learning experience, and it’s just an amazing event with a lot of great up-and-coming teachers. It’s terrific for everyone, both the kids and the teachers.”

Wendy Abell, teacher at Tuskawilla Presbyterian Preschool, was also glad for the opportunity to take part in Read for the Record this year. “I think anything that encourages early literacy is a good thing, so this reading initiative is amazing and we are so privileged to have been invited this year to participate.”

Amy Pylant, teacher at Grand Avenue Primary Learning Center in Parramore, added, “The children were so excited and they talked about it all the way back to school. Everything was so well organized and I can truthfully say I’ve never been on such a relaxing field trip. This will be a day we will all remember!”

Retrieved 10/23/14 from: https://today.ucf.edu/read-record-encourages-laughs-literacy-pre-k-students/

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Free Implementing the Florida Standards Webinar Nov. 6

Dr. Mark Shanoff, Florida’s National Principal of the Year, and Dr. Rosemarye Taylor, will be offering a FASA webinar for free on November 6. The topic is implementing Florida standards/rigor easily with improvements in student learning. Registration is available on the FASA website and information follows.

FL Standards Practicality for Teachers: Makes Learning Meaningful: Thursday, November 6, 2014 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST.

Register now: http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e9pw7v2k0b1635c1&llr=67itf5iab

Presenters will share their practical approach for enhancing rigorous learning expectations for all students. Results over two years indicate that this systematic process for planning and implementing instruction simplifies teachers’ work, increases collaboration and ownership, and makes learning more accessible and more meaningful to students.
Great Workshops for Next Week by HAPPY Hour

Read with Me, Talk with Me, Have Fun with Me!
will be held from 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. on Monday, November 3, 2014, in room 130 of the Teaching Academy on the Orlando campus. Presenter: Jill A. Esposito, M. Ed., Early Literacy Master Teacher, Nemours BrightStart. This workshop is geared toward Early Childhood/Elementary Ed. majors.

So You Might Want to Be a Media Specialist? will be held from 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 4, 2014, in CMC (ED 194) on the Orlando campus. Presenters: Yolanda Hood, Curriculum Materials Center (CMC) Director; Panel—a media specialist (Orange/Seminole), a media coordinator (Orange/Seminole); Dr. Cora Dunkley (USF School Library Program: SLIS). This workshop is geared toward all students.

Intent to Present — workshop for students interested in presenting at the HAPPY Hour Student Showcase, will be held from 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 5, 2014, in room 117 of the Teaching Academy on the Orlando campus. Presenters: Karen Verkler, HAPPY Hour Chair, and past HAPPY Hour Student Showcase presenters. This workshop is geared toward all students.

Past HAPPY Hour Student Showcase presenters have said that THE impetus behind their decision to present was faculty encouragement. Please encourage your teacher candidates - undergraduate AND graduate - to submit a proposal to present at the HAPPY Hour Student Showcase. Students interested in presenting at the Showcase, which will be from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 31, 2015, may submit presentation proposals online at http://education.ucf.edu/happyhour. The link to submit proposals will be activated on Monday, November 3, 2014 and will remain open until Sunday, December 7, 2014. Students interested in presenting, but who don’t know what’s involved, may attend one of two identical workshops, Intent to Present, from 4:30-5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 5, 2014 and Thursday, November 6, 2014. At this workshop, students will learn how to brainstorm appropriate conference topics and how to write and submit a presentation proposal. For additional information, contact Dr. Karen Verkler, HAPPY Hour Chair, at karen.verkler@ucf.edu
## Calendar of Events

- **Nov. 3** 🌟 HAPPY Hour Presents: Read with Me, Talk with Me, Have Fun with Me! 4:30pm—5:30pm, TA 130
- **Nov. 4** 🌟 HAPPY Hour Presents: So You Might Want to Be a Media Specialist 4:30pm—6:00pm, CMC (ED 194)
- **Nov. 5** 🌟 HAPPY Hour Presents: Intent to Present, 4:30pm—5:30pm, TA 117
- **Nov. 6** 🌟 HAPPY Hour Presents: Intent to Present, 4:30pm—5:30pm, TA 130
- **Nov. 6** 🌟 Implementing the Florida Standards free webinar, 4:00pm—5:00pm EST
- **Nov. 10** Prof Ed Workshop; 4:30pm, TA 117
- **Nov. 14** UCF vs. Tulsa
- **Nov. 16** 🌟 HAPPY Hour Presents: Wonder Grove Kids are Coming to UCF; 4:30 -5:30pm, Webinar
- **Nov. 17** International Education Week: Two Cultures, Two Continents, 2:00 -3:00pm, Burnett Honors College
- **Nov. 18** Seminole County Public Schools Teach-In
- **Nov. 21** TeachLivE Open Lab; 1:00-5:00pm
- **Nov. 22** UCF vs. Southern Methodist University